RAVENS SCANS

Mayonaka no X Giten

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The clue that led us to the true culprit...

was my Cross Ability.

When swapping into a body, one can make use of the unique ability

that reflects the body's owner's deepest desires.

Cross Abilities are special powers that can be used only when body swapping.

Kirishima Sachi,

fed up by the Kirishima Family's deceitful ways, craved a world free of lies and falsehoods.

This gave him the power to determine a written passage's truth, Judgment Fake.

For instance, with Mikuriya Mikuni,

her desire to know how the mother who abandoned her truly felt

gave her the power to read other's minds, Silent Regret.

Kirishima Ai,

the subject of abuse that could come and go at any moment,

could obtain absolute security only when her abusers slept,

and so her power, Love Lullaby, sent the listener into a deep slumber.

In An'no Shion's case,

since a certain idiot couldn't take a hint and start calling her by her actual name,

she worried that, when he finally did, she wouldn't be able to respond honestly. Hence, she gained the power to force someone to respond, Too Loose Name.

What, then, was my own Power?

What desire could that possibly reflect?

I had the strange ability to wake up instantly after falling asleep, but...

The answer told me who it was who had killed my sister.

After all, I desired, always and forever...

STORY / YAMAGUCHI MIKOTO—ART / BAREISHO

To keep my sister safe.

真夜中のX儀典

CHAPTER 26: TRAGEDY, AND ITS LAST DREGS

Y-YEAH.

はぁ

...I'M SORRY. YOU'RE GOING TO BE LATE FOR SCHOOL, AND IT'S ALL MY FAULT, AND...

...ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, HIROKI?

...

YOU...

THANK YOU.

AT TIMES LIKE THIS, JUST LIE DOWN AND LET ME FUSS OVER YOU.

STOP THAT!

SICK KIDS DON'T GET TO WORRY ABOUT THEIR BIG SISTERS.

[sfx]: flick!

YOU SEEM KIND OF LIKE MOM.

OH YEAH. WHERE IS DAD?

STILL OUT ON HIS BUSI-NESS TRIP, APPARENTLY. HE PROBABLY WON'T BE HOME FOR A WEEK.

HE'S NEVER AROUND THESE DAYS...

AHAHA ... DO I?

HE CAN'T HELP IT.

IF HE WERE AROUND, HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO KEEP FROM REMEMBER-ING.

THE OTHER DAY, DAD SAID THAT I'M STARTING TO LOOK LIKE HER.

I'M SURE LOSING MOM HURT HIM THE HARDEST.

BUT WHY DO YOU NEED TO?

YOUR SISTER IS ALREADY SO STRONG.

YEAH.

HEY, KAMI-YA-KUN ...

BEFORE, DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU WANTED TO BECOME STRONG IN ORDER TO PROTECT YOUR SISTER?

HOWEVER, LATELY, I'VE BEEN FEELING IT EVEN MORE STRONGLY.

...SHE CERTAINLY IS, YEAH.

I DON'T KNOW IF I COULD GIVE YOU A CLEAR-CUT REASON.

...I WONDER WHY.

NEE-SAN, YOU'RE HOME EARLY TODAY.

IS WORK OVER ALREADY?

...HUH?

...I'M HOME.

I QUIT MY JOB.

...
NEE-SAN?

HUH? WHY?

...
IT'S...

IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S ANYTHING I COULD TELL YOU.

DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?

.....

[efx]: Pat

YOU'RE IN THE ADULT WORLD. I'M SURE THERE'S LOTS OF THINGS YOU HAVE TO GO THROUGH THAT I DON'T UNDER-STAND.

WELL, WHAT'S SO BAD ABOUT THAT?

...WHAT... HAPPENED?

WE FOUGHT, ME AND DAD.

OUT FOR WORK, I GUESS. HE WON'T BE BACK FOR A WHILE.

...
WHERE'S HE NOW?

[sfx]: *Sigh*

DAD'S BEEN IN A GOOD MOOD LATELY, SO I THOUGHT MAYBE WE COULD GO BACK TO LIVING AS A FAMILY, BUT NOW...

WHY DID THIS HAVE TO HAPPEN AGAIN?

SH-

SHUT UP!

WHY DON'T I CALL HIM, AND WE CAN APOLOGIZE TOGETHER?

YOU SAID SOMETHING THAT WENT A BIT TOO FAR, DIDN'T YOU?

AND YOU DON'T EVEN LEAVE YOUR ROOM ANY-MORE...

WHAT HAP-PENED?

.....

NEVER UNDERS-TAND MY PAIN!

YOU COULD NEVER UNDERS-TAND.

OF COURSE I CAN'T.

YOU WON'T TELL ME ANYTHING.

IF ONLY I WERE BORN A MAN, I WOULDN'T EVEN HAVE TO DEAL WITH ANY OF THIS CRAP!

THERE'S THINGS A GIRL CAN'T TELL A GUY!

I SAW THE TRUTH BEHIND MY SISTER'S WORDS.

--ONCE I KNEW THE ANSWER,

INTO A SINGLE WOMAN.

NEE-SAN MERGED IN YOUR MIND WITH OUR DECEASED MOTHER...

EVENTUALLY, YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO HOLD BACK YOUR FEELINGS ANY LONGER,

AND SO YOU WOUND UP DOING... *SOMETHING* TO HER.

.....

SO SCARRED THAT SHE CLOSED OFF HER HEART,

AND WITHDREW WITHIN IT.

BUT THAT ACTION LEFT HER SOUL SCARRED.

WHAT THAT WAS, I WON'T ASK YOU. NOT RIGHT NOW.

AND NOT WHILE I SLEPT NORMALLY.

WHENEVER YOU DID WHATEVER IT WAS YOU DID TO HER, YOU DRUGGED ME, DIDN'T YOU?

AT THOSE KEY MOMENTS, WHEN I SHOULD HAVE KEPT HER SAFE, YOU PUT ME TO SLEEP.

FATHER, YOU ACTED WHILE I SLEPT.

HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO BLIND?

[sfx]: Clench

I LIVED WITH HER, SO WHY DIDN'T I NOTICE?

THE ANSWER WAS SIMPLE.

MY SUBCONSCIOUS COULD PROBABLY SENSE HOW MY SISTER'S SPIRITS FELL WITH EACH PASSING NIGHT.

THAT'S EXACTLY WHY THIS POWER CAME TO DWELL IN MY BODY.

THAT'S WHY I HAVE THE CROSS ABILITY TO REJECT SLUMBER,

UNSLEEPING GUARDIAN.

...I HAD NO IDEA, FATHER, THAT YOU KNEW SO MUCH ABOUT MEDICINE.

IN TRUTH,

SHE WAS TOO STRONG OTHERWISE TO GO DOWN WITHOUT A FIGHT.

AND WHAT'S MORE, I'M SURE YOU USED THAT SAME DRUG ON MY SISTER.

KIRISHIMA AI
(-X-)
AN'NO SHIN'ICHIROU
FURUYANAGI KOU
KAMIYA DAIKI
KAMISHIRO SACHI
?
KAMIYA HIROKI
MIKURIYA MIKŪNI
DIDN'T YOU USE THAT DRUG TO FREEZE YOUR OWN BODY IN PLACE?
WEREN'T YOU THE SEVENTH PARTICIPANT IN THE CROSS ACT, FATHER?
AND ENTERED THE BODY OF THE EIGHTH PARTICIPANT.
KAMIYA DAIKI
EIGHTH PARTICIPANT
?
YOU PARTICIPATED IN THE CROSS ACT THAT DAY FOR A CERTAIN REASON.
IN OTHER WORDS, THE EIGHT PARTICI-PANT
WAS THE ONE PERSON WHO COULD DEFINI-TIVELY KILL ME DURING THAT TWO-HOUR SPAN.
WAS TO KILL ME.
THAT REASON ...

ムフッ

BY NECESSITY, WE THEN KNOW THAT NEE-SAN MUST HAVE ENTERED MY BODY.

[sfx] Drowsy

KAMIYA DAIKI

WITH THAT, WE NOW KNOW THE IDENTITIES OF EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE CROSS ACT.

KAMIYA YUI

KAMIYA_HIR

MY SISTER, KAMIYA YUI.

BUT THAT, FATHER, WAS WHEN YOU WERE COMPLETELY CAUGHT OFF GUARD.

NEE-SAN WANTED TO BECOME A MAN, AND SO YOU LURED HER THE SAME WAY YOU DID ME.

YOU PLANNED FOR BOTH ME AND NEE-SAN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CROSS ACT.

IN ORDER TO KILL ME,

SHE AWOKE.

WITH THE POWER OF UNSLEEPING GUARDIAN,

YOU HAD DRUGGED MY BODY TO SLEEP, AND YET...

SHE STOLE THE WEAPON FROM YOUR HANDS...

BUT MY SISTER WAS THE MORE SKILLED FIGHTER.

THE TWO OF YOU CLASHED.

AND STABBED HER OWN FLESH.

ALL TO KEEP ME SAFE!

IN A MANNER OF SPEAKING, SHE COMMIT-TED SUICIDE.

...NEE-SAN... SHE KILLED HERSELF WITH HER OWN TWO HANDS.

AT THIS VERY MOMENT, THE POLICE ARE BARGING IN ON YOUR ROOM, FATHER.

NOT A CHANCE.

DO YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST STAY SILENT FOR TWO HOURS, GO BACK TO YOUR BODY, AND GET AWAY WITH THIS?

...WHY WON'T YOU SAY ANYTHING ?

IT'S HIGH TIME YOU GAVE UP AND TOLD US EVERY-TH'NG.

EVERYTHING I SAID S TRUE, ISN'T IT?

WHERE THEY WILL BE SE-CURING BOTH YOUR BODY AND NEE-SAN'S CORPSE, WHICH YOU STOLE.

I DID NOT JUST WANT TO KILL YOU...

...I'M SORRY TO SAY, BUT THERE IS ONE THING YOU'RE MIS-TAKEN ON.

YOU WHAT?

NOT UNTIL I'D FUCKED UP YOUR FACE SO BAD I'D NEVER HAVE TO SEE IT AGAIN.

AND KNOWING THAT YOU READ MY BLOG,

I CAN IMAGINE WHAT FEELINGS YOU HELD FOR ME.

NOW THAT I UNDER-STAND HOW YOU FELT ABOUT MY SISTER,

AND ENVIED YOU.

DETESTED YOU UNCON-TROLLA-BLY..

YES... I LOATHED YOU,

BUT... IT WAS THAT STRONG ?

YOU HATED ME THAT MUCH?

YUI, YOU SEE,

WAS MY ONE AND ONLY HOPE.

AND SO I LOVED HER.

YOU ARE RIGHT. AT SOME POINT, I DON'T KNOW WHEN, SHE BEGAN TO MERGE WITH YURIKO IN MY MIND.

WHEN I WAS DROWNING IN THE DESPAIR OF LOSING YOUR MOTHER YURIKO, IT WAS YUI WHO DID EVERYTHING SHE COULD TO CHEER ME UP.

I WOULDN'T HAVE SURVIVED WITHOUT HER.

MY EXPRESSION OF LOVE WAS PERHAPS A LITTLE TWISTED.

WELL, I WAS WILLING TO ACCEPT THAT.

BUT SHE COMPLETELY AND UTTERLY REJECTED THOSE FEELINGS.

...BUT IT DIDN'T MAKE SENSE.

WHY DID SHE REJECT ME...

WHEN SHE LET YOU STAY BY HER SIDE, YOU AND YOUR FACE THAT LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE MINE?!

SO I HATED, HATED...

AND ENVIED!

I WOULD HAVE OBEYED HER EVERY WHIM,

SO WHY YOU? WHY YOU, HIROKI?

I...I COULD NEVER UNDERS-TAND

YOU HAD NO IDEA HOW MUCH THAT MEANT.

NOT ONLY THAT, YOU EVEN VILIFIED YUI WITH EVERY UNBEARABLE POST YOU FLUNG ONTO YOUR BLOG!

I WOULD DESTROY THAT FACE THAT LOOKS SO MUCH LIKE MINE, AND USE YUI'S BODY TO DO IT.

THAT, HIROKI, IS WHY I SOUGHT TO KILL YOU.

[sfx]: Hug

AND THEN, WOULDN'T SHE BECOME LIKE ME? WOULDN'T YOU AND I, HIROKI, OVERLAP IN HER MIND...

UNTIL SHE CAME TO LOVE ME?

YUI WOULD LOSE ANOTHER PERSON SHE CARED ABOUT.

AND WHAT'S MORE, SHE WOULD KILL HIM WITH HER OWN TWO HANDS. WHO KNOWS HOW MUCH DESPAIR THAT WOULD BRING TO HER?

LIKE HELL IT WOULD, YOU FUCKING PERVERT!

A SELF-RIGHTEOUS PIECE OF SHIT LIKE YOU COULD NEVER EXPERIENCE TRUE LOVE!

I'VE MET ENOUGH ASSHOLES IN MY LIFE

TO BE ABLE TO KNOW ONE WHEN I SEE HIM!

I'M NOT SAYING THIS TWICE, SO YOU BETTER CLEAN THAT SHIT OUT OF YOUR EARS AND LISTEN UP...

M-MIKURIYA...?

SHE'D NEVER START THINKING YOU WERE HIM!

YOU DON'T LOOK ONE BIT LIKE HIROKI!

HE'S SOMEONE WHO'S BEEN LOVED.

HA HA... THE HELL?

THAT'S SUPER LAME, YOU IDIOT

SHUT UP!

Y-

H

B

HIROKI'S ALWAYS KIND,

AND WILLING TO GO ON A LIMB FOR ANOTHER

SO I'M CRYING ALL THE TEARS YOU COULDN'T!!

[sfx]: Wipe x2

WHILE YOU, YOU LIVE ONLY FOR YOUR-SELF. YOU'RE NOTHING LIKE HIM.

Hm...

KAMIYA-KUN.

...

...AND YOUR SISTER'S BODY REALLY WAS THERE.

WE'VE RECEIVED WORD FROM YOU-SAN.

SHE'S SECURED YOUR FATHER'S BODY.

...I SEE...

And thus did the incident I'd been caught up in come to a close.

how my deceased sister had truly felt.

If I had one regret, it's that I wish I had come to understand...

...BY THE WAY,

...IT'S FINE.

SORRY ABOUT THIS, ABOUT DRAGGING YOU ALONG THE WHOLE WAY.

YEAH.

...IT'S FINALLY OVER.

SHUT UP!

I'M CRYING ALL THE TEARS YOU CAN'T! YOU'D BETTER BE THANKFUL!

WHY ARE YOU CRYING, MIKURIYA?

[sfx]: Drip

I GET HOW MUCH IT HURTS TO LOSE FAMILY, AFTER ALL.

...YEAH.

THANKS.

[sfx]: Squeeze

IF ONLY... IF ONLY LONELY HEARTS COULD COME TOGETHER AND BECOME A FAMILY.

HAHA. WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

YOU SOUND SO LAME, YOU IDIOT.

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